



NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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USDA to Measure Small Grain Production

HARRISBURG, PA – During the first two weeks of September, growers of small grains around the country will receive survey forms from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The agency is taking a comprehensive look into the 2018 production and supply of small grains, which include wheat, oats, barley, and rye.

“The small grains industry is an important part of Northeastern agriculture and it is crucial for all involved with the agriculture sector to have accurate data about this key sector of the economy,” said NASS Northeastern Regional Director King Whetstone. “We will contact more than 4,000 producers in Delaware, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania to accurately measure 2018 acreage, yield, and production for small grain crops. The data collected from this survey will also help set small grain acreage, yield, and production estimates at the county level, to be published in December 2018.”

NASS will contact survey participants to gather information on their 2018 production and the quantities of whole grains and oilseeds stored on farm. As an alternative to mailing the survey back, and to help save both time and money, growers will have the option to securely respond to the survey online. Farmers who have not responded by August 29, 2018 may receive a phone call or visit from a NASS representative who will help them fill out the survey form.

“NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents and publishes only county-, state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified,” stated Whetstone. “We recognize that this is a hectic time for farmers and ranchers, but the information they provide helps U.S. agriculture remain viable and capable. I urge them to respond to these surveys and thank them for their time and cooperation.”

NASS will analyze the survey information and publish the results in a series of USDA reports, including the annual *Small Grains Summary* and quarterly *Grain Stocks* reports, both to be released September 28, 2018. Survey data also contribute to NASS’s monthly and annual *Crop Production* reports, and the USDA’s World Agricultural Outlook Board’s monthly *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE)*.

All NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/. For more information call the NASS Northeastern Regional Office at 1-800-498-1518.

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NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.

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